

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TEHRAN 09601 301450Z

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ACTION NEA-10

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FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3691

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E.O.11652: N/A

TAGS: USIRJC, AFXP

SUBJ: JOINT COMMISSION: ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT ARRANGEMENTS

REF: TEHRAN 9526

1. FOLLOWING UP ON CONVERSATION SEPT. 27, ON SEPT. 29 DR. MEHRAN HANDED DEP. ASST. SEC. SOBER A GOI PROPOSAL ON ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT ARRANGEMENTS FOR TECHNICAL COOPERATION BETWEEN IRAN AND THE USA. PROPOSAL HAS BEEN CLEARED BY MIN. FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

2. TEXT AS FOLLOWS: QUOTE SUBJECT TO THE RATIFICATION BY THE IRANIAN GOVERNMENT OF THE AGREEMENT ON TECHNICAL COOPERATION BETWEEN THE IMPERIAL GOVERNMENT OF IRAN AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, AND ALSO SUBJECT TO ANY SPECIAL ARRANGEMENTS WHICH MAY BE AGREED UPON BETWEEN THE RESPECTIVE IRANIAN AND AMERICAN GOVERNMENT AGENCIES AND/OR THE EXPERTS OF THE LATTER GOVERNMENT, THE FOLLOWING PROVISIONS SHALL GUIDE THE RELATIONS BETWEEN THESE AGENCIES AND/OR EXPERTS AS REGARDS TECHNICAL COOPERATION:

1. HOUSING

1. THE RESPECTIVE IRANIAN AGENCY SHALL PROVIDE HOTEL ACCOMMODATION FOR SHORT TERM EXPERTS.

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PAGE 02 TEHRAN 09601 301450Z

2. AS REGARDS THE LONG-TERM EXPERTS WHEN DECIDING

ON THEIR SALARY, THE TWO SIDES WILL AGREE ON THE PERCENTAGE OF THE SALARY WHICH WOULD BE CONSIDERED AS THE HOUSING ALLOWANCE. IF BY THE TIME THE EXPERT ARRIVES IN IRAN, THE RESPECTIVE IRANIAN PARTY FINDS IT POSSIBLE TO PROVIDE SUITABLE HOUSING (INCLUDING FURNISHING AND REPAIR AND MAINTENANCE SERVICES) THEN THE SAID PERCENTAGE SHALL NOT BE PAID TO THE EXPERT. (PARAGRAPH) IF THE RESPECTIVE IRANIAN AGENCY DOES NOT FIND IT POSSIBLE TO

PROVIDE HOUSING, THEN IT SHALL PROVIDE HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS FOR A PERIOD OF UP TO THREE MONTHS, DEDUCTING PROPORTIONATE AMOUNT FROM THE SALARY OF THE EXPERT ACCORDING TO THE PERCENTAGE AGREED. IN THIS CASE THE RESPECTIVE IRANIAN AGENCY SHALL ASSIST THE EXPERT IN FINDING A HOUSE IN IRAN. THE EXPERT SHALL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE UTILITIES.

"SUITABLE" MEANING HOUSING PROVIDED IN CONSULTATION WITH THE US EMBASSY.

II. TRANSPORTATION

1. THE RESPECTIVE IRANIAN AGENCY WOULD UNDERTAKE THE COST OF OFFICIAL INTERNATIONAL AND INTERNAL TRIPS OF THE EXPERTS, INCLUDING PER DIEMS.
2. THE RESPECTIVE IRANIAN AGENCY WOULD PROVIDE A MAXIMUM OF POUNDS FOR AIR FREIGHT.
3. THE RESPECTIVE IRANIAN AGENCY WOULD PROVIDE THE EXPENSE WITH LOCAL TRANSPORTATION SERVICES BETWEEN THEIR RESIDENCES AND THEIR OFFICES, AS WELL AS OTHER OFFICIAL PURPOSES. WHETHER AN EXPERT WOULD HAVE A CAR AVAILABLE FOR PERSONAL USE WOULD DEPEND ON ARRANGEMENTS BETWEEN THE PARTIES CONCERNED.

III. OFFICE SPACE AND FACILITIES

THE RESPECTIVE IRANIAN AGENCY WOULD PROVIDE THE EXPERTS WITH OFFICE SPACE (WHICH WOULD BE SIMILAR TO THE FACILITIES PROVIDED TO IRANIAN EXPERTS OF EQUAL RANK AND STATUS) AND TELEPHONE. IN SPECIAL CASES, SECRETARY AND TRANSLATOR MIGHT ALSO BE PROVIDED. (PARAGRAPH) THIS IS A MATTER TO BE AGREED UPON BETWEEN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 03 TEHRAN 09601 301450Z

THE TWO PARTIES IN EACH CASE.

IV. CUSTOM REGULATIONS

1. THE EXPERTS SHALL BE EXEMPT FROM CUSTOM AND OTHER IMPORT DUTIES AND COMMERCIAL TAXES ON PERSONAL AND HOUSEHOLD EFFECTS IMPORTED FOR PERSONAL USE OF THE EXPERT AND HIS FAMILY FOR THE PURPOSE OF PRIMARY ACCOMMODATION.

THIS PROVISION SHALL APPLY TO LONG-TERM EXPERTS ONLY.

2. THE EXPERT SHALL BE EXEMPT FROM CUSTOM AND NON-CUSTOM IMPORT DUTIES AND CHARGES, COMMERCIAL TAX AND OTHER TAXES AND CHARGES ON CAR IMPORT FOR HIS PERSONAL USE. SHOULD THE EXPERT DECIDE TO TRANSFER OR SELL HIS CAR IN IRAN HE SHALL PAY ALL THE CUSTOM AND NON-CUSTOM DUTIES AND CHARGES, COMMERCIAL TAX AND OTHER TAXES ON THE BASIS OF PREVAILING RULES AND REGULATIONS.

V. FRINGE BENEFIT, AND EMBASSY SHARED SUPPORT COSTS

ALL FRINGE BENEFITS AND EMBASSY SHARED SUPPORT COSTS EFFECTED BY THE US SIDE SHALL BE PRESENTED IN THE GLOBAL SALARY OF THE EXPERT. UNQUOTE

3. WE ARE STUDYING GOI PROPOSAL. INITIAL REACTION IS THAT IT REPRESENTS POSITIVE EFFORT TO RESOLVE PENDING ADMINISTRATIVE ISSUES BUT THAT IT CONTAINS SOME TROUBLESOME PROVISIONS (E.G., RE RESPONSIBILITY FOR HOUSING) THAT WILL REQUIRE FURTHER NEGOTIATION. WE WISH RETAIN MOMENTUM FOR RESOLUTION THESE ISSUES AND PLAN FURTHER EARLY DISCUSSION WITH MEHRAN (OR HIS DESIGNEE).

4. MEANWHILE EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE DEPT.'S REACTION.
HELMS

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